

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
April 16, 2004

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, April 16, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., in the Board Room of the Student Services Building at Itawamba Community College in Fulton, Mississippi.

Members present: Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Ms. Veldore Young.

Member not present: Ms. Patricia Randall.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mr. John Adcock, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert and Mrs. Denise Walley.

Guests in attendance: Dr. David Cole – Itawamba Community College; Dr. Bill Smith – IHL; and Dr. Tommy Davis – East Mississippi Community College.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME

Dr. David Cole, President of Itawamba Community College, welcomed everyone and introduced the following ICC staff members: Dr. Ron Phillips – Dean of Allied Health, Ms. Judy Alford – Administrative Assistant to the President, Dr. Sara Johnson – Vice-President of Instruction, Mr. Don Benjamin – Dean of Applied Science and Technology, Mrs. Jan Reid-Bunch – Dean of Academic Instruction, Mr. Jerry Senter – Vice-President of Finance and Mr. Will Bunch - Director of Institutional Advancement. Dr. Cole gave the Board and Staff caps or sun visors as souvenirs for their visit to the Itawamba campus. He announced that lunch would be served immediately following the meeting in the adjoining dinning room.

PRELIMINARIES

Ms. Veldore Young gave the invocation.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 18-19, 2004, Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 18-19, 2004, meeting.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Mr. Walker stated that he would like to take several of the Agenda items out of sequence, due to the fact that Ms. Veldore Young will need to leave the meeting early. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda items, and to leave the order of which they are discussed to the discretion of the Chairman.

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REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher began by thanking Dr. Cole for hosting the Board meeting and expressed appreciation to him and his staff for their hospitality during the visit.

Dr. Stonecypher reported that he and Mr. Curt Thompson with the Mississippi Employment Security Commission are continuing efforts to obtain the \$1.8 million that is available in WIA funds for a contract with CCBenefits to use a job placement service program that analyzes availability and demand.

Dr. William McHenry, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs with IHL, is reviewing the time-to-degree for undergraduate majors who attend the Mississippi universities. One factor under consideration is limiting the baccalaureate degree programs to 120 semester hours (with some exceptions). If IHL decides to change its qualifications by changing the required hours, this would have a direct effect on the community colleges.

There was a recent meeting between Dr. Shelby Thames – President of the University of Southern Mississippi, Dr. Stonecypher, Dr. Howell Garner (Copiah-Lincoln), Dr. Willis Lott (MS Gulf Coast) and Dr. William Lewis (Pearl River) regarding the articulation of courses from community and junior colleges to the universities. Dr. Vaughn at USM will appoint a committee in the near future to work out discrepancies in the current agreement.

Dr. Stonecypher recently attended and took part in the Natchez Literacy and Cinema Celebration that is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. The Celebration annually presents a theme-based lecture series enhanced by films, music, discussion groups, writing workshops, exhibits, book sales, book signings, an awards ceremony, tours and social events.

At the request of the MACJC, a committee has been formed to consider concerns that Dr. Henry Johnson, Superintendent of Education, brought before the Association earlier in the year regarding the ACT being used as a placement tool at the community colleges. Dr. William Lewis (Pearl River Community College) will chair the committee, with Mr. Jason Pugh (SBCJC) and Mr. Dan Hogan (Hinds) serving as representatives for the community college system and Dr. Kay Clay, Dr. Bonita Potter and Mr. James Sardin representing the State Department of Education. Current legislation requiring students who receive the Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant (MTAG) to have a certain ACT score to be eligible to receive the grant is one issue that will have to be considered; as well as, the expense that the colleges would incur by using another method of placement testing.

Dr. Stonecypher reported that Pamela Jackson Mathews, who is the wife of Dr. David Potter – Commissioner of IHL recently died. A memorial service will be held at the Bologna Performing Arts Center of Delta State University at 4:00 p.m., Sunday, April 18.

Ms. Veldore Young's father, Representative Charles Young, recently had open heart surgery. It was reported that he is recovering very well.

Another item of interest, IHL, SBCJC and the State Department of Education, during the FY 2003 Legislative Session, was mandated to conduct a study regarding dual enrollment and dual

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credit for courses taken by high school students in dual enrollment programs. This study is to be completed on or before December 1, 2004.

The Joint Purchasing Bill that involves purchasing necessities for the colleges and universities through the IHL and SBCJC offices, recently died. However, some of the same language has been placed in another bill. While using this means as a possible way to save money, this could take away some power that the local colleges have; as well as, end longstanding arrangements that some of the colleges have had with local businesses in their community. IHL has appointed a committee and has asked several community college business managers to serve. Debby Gard from East Mississippi has been asked to chair the committee that will be looking into the actual cost saving through bids, etc., to see if this is a worthwhile endeavor. Jerry Bryan and Mike Herndon from Mississippi Gulf Coast will also serve on the committee. If such practice became mandated by legislation, additional staff may be needed in the SBCJC and IHL offices to assist with the additional responsibility.

Dr. Stonecypher was recently given an opportunity to write an article for the *Supervisors Magazine*. He stated that the relationship between the supervisors and the community and junior colleges are intertwined in several ways. The supervisors, who appoint the majority of the local community or junior college board members, also provide financial support for the local college through millage. Hopefully, the supervisors and colleges can continue to work together to help set the goals of where we would like to be in higher education.

Dr. Stonecypher is working on adding a "Criteria For The Establishment of a New Permanent Facility" section to the *Guidelines for Establishing A New Campus or Off-Campus Site and for Changing the Instructional Mission at an Extension Center or Off-Campus Site*, that was approved by the Board in September 2001. The criteria will be reviewed by the Board at the next meeting before being submitted for the Administrative Procedures.

Dr. David Cole commented on the requirement that the Board mandate approval of the location of classes before the colleges could be reimbursed for those students. He explained his views on the infringement of local control.

Dr. Stonecypher congratulated Mr. Lawrence Warren for his upcoming induction into the *Mississippi Business Hall of Fame*. The ceremony will be held on May 10, 2004.

Dr. Stonecypher ended his report by thanking Dr. Dorothy Nelson, who will be representing the community and junior colleges at the Delta State University Inauguration of Dr. John Hilpert on April 29, 2004.

Workforce Report

Mr. Walker stated that the State Workforce Council met on April 14, 2004. The Council voted to draft a letter to the Members of the State Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor outlining the consequences Workforce Education will suffer if it is not adequately funded. Mr. Walker asked the Board if they wanted to co-sponsor the letter (shown as Exhibit A). Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the letter and to show their support by being listed as a group.

Mr. Walker provided an article by Mr. Joe Jones in the *Mississippi Business Journal* (see Exhibit B), where he shared his views on the importance of businesses investing in maintaining and developing employee skills; whereby, nothing less than a commitment to lifelong learning would

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be adequate to keep up with the fast pace of technology.

Election of Officers

Mr. Walker opened the floor for election of officers for the July 2004 – June 2005 year.

Mr. Lawrence Warren made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, that Mr. George Walker be re-elected to serve as SBCJC Chairman for the 2004-2005 year. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Mrs. Brenda Yonge made a motion seconded by Ms. Veldore Young, that Mr. Lawrence Warren be re-elected to serve as SBCJC Vice-Chairman for the 2004-2005 year. **Motion passed unanimously.**

*The meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m. and reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Consideration of Executive Session

Dr. Dorothy Nelson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Veldore Young, that the SBCJC consider going into executive session. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Dr. Dorothy Nelson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jimmy Murphy, that the SBCJC go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. **Motion passed unanimously.**

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Members present during executive session were Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Ms. Veldore Young. SBCJC staff present were Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert and Mrs. Denise Walley. The Board heard the Executive Director's desire to give pay raises to all staff members effective July 1, 2004, dependant on receiving sufficient funds from the legislature. In addition, Dr. Stonecypher discussed long-term organizational needs of the State Board. Ms. Veldore Young suggested that they wait and see about the FY 05 funding before a commitment is made.

Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board **voted unanimously** to return to open session. It was announced in Open Session that the Board did not take action on information discussed during the closed session.

Due to another engagement, Ms. Veldore Young left the meeting.

MACJC Report

Dr. Tommy Davis began by stating that members of the Association are heavily involved at this time with legislation currently being considered, and will continue to be focused on legislative matters until the end of the session.

At their last meeting, the Association heard a presentation from Mr. Danny McKenzie and Mr. Tim Hedgepeth, the Executive Director of the Mississippi Arts Commission. Mr. Hedgepeth reported on ways the Arts Commission could assist the community and junior colleges by

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restructuring old buildings and allowing the colleges to utilize them as art centers.

Mr. Jim Southward has talked with the staff at the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) regarding the acceptance of the Occupational Diploma for athletics. MDE has now mailed confirmation to Mr. Wayne Baker at the national office that an Occupational Diploma is to be considered as the same as any other diploma, even for Athletic purposes. However, not all of the community and junior colleges have made the decision to accept the occupational diploma as being the same.

Dr. Scott Elliott, Chair of the MACJC History Committee, informed the group that changes and suggestions have all been made to the draft of the *History of the Community and Junior Colleges (1972-2002)* and the book has been sent to the printer.

The MACJC revisited a previous recommendation made by the Athletic Directors regarding tuition and fees being included in scholarships for all sports. The Association agreed to accept the recommendation for District 1 (D1) Sports only.

EdNet Report

Dr. Larry Day reported that the EdNet Board met on April 13, 2004. Pending an agreement of the stipulations below, the settlement will be completed in 45 days:

- EdNet will receive 180 ITFS transmitters with an initial value of about \$2,000,000.
- WorldCom will issue 1,700 shares of MCI stock to EdNet.
- EdNet will receive a cash disbursement of \$46,875.
- Equipment now in storage (estimated value - \$500,000) that was bought as part of the project will be transferred to EdNet.

Qualifications Manual for Post-Secondary Career-Technical Personnel

Mr. John Adcock gave a brief overview of the *Qualifications Manual for Post-Secondary Career-Technical Personnel* that was previously mailed to the Board, as shown in "Exhibit C". He related that a committee of post-secondary deans met for three (3) days to review the current qualifications, and took measures to assure that the revised version would meet or exceed the previous requirements. If the Board approves, the State Board Office will begin the process for Administrative Procedures. Upon a motion by Mrs. Brenda Yonge and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to begin the Administrative Procedures process for the *Qualifications Manual for Post-Secondary Career-Technical Personnel*.

Program Report

Mr. John Adcock reported that Holmes Community College has submitted a request that **Manufacturing Technology** be approved as a concentration area under their current Engineering Technology Program, beginning the Fall 2004 semester at the Grenada Center (see Exhibit D). Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve Holmes Community College's request for Manufacturing Technology to be added under their current Engineering Technology.

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Legislative Report

Dr. Stonecypher provided a copy of the bills that are currently being tracked that have a direct effect on the community colleges or the SBCJC, see "Exhibit E". He gave a brief review and stated that several bills recently died in committee.

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the items on the Finance Agenda for information and action.

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mr. Lawrence Warren, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2004 from Fund 4080 (\$1,987,086.22) and Fund 4110 (\$45,063.49) in the total amount of \$2,032,149.71, as shown in "Exhibit F".

Upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the purchase of the Community College Strategic Planner (CCPS) from CCBenefits in the amount of \$90,000.00, contingent upon receiving WIA (federal) funds (Exhibit G).

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the SBCJC and Copiah-Lincoln Community College to support the MSVCC with Desire2Learn, Inc, which will make available a learning management system as defined in "Exhibit H", in the amount of \$30,000.00.

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between SBCJC and Venture Publications, Inc., regarding *Mississippi NEXT: A Guide to Life after High School*, as attached as "Exhibit I" in the amount of \$10,000.

The following items were presented in report form, with no action required:

Mrs. Gilbert asked for input regarding the FY 2006 Budget Request. Her office will soon begin putting the request together, and plans to bring it before the Board at the June meeting for approval.

Mrs. Gilbert provided financial statements on Funds 2291 and Special Funds as of March 31, 2004, as shown on "Exhibit J".

Dr. Larry Day presented the 2004 First Quarterly Capital Improvement Report as of March 31, 2004, shown as "Exhibit K".

Travel Authorizations

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursement for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve travel authorizations, as follows:

Mr. George Walker attended the State Workforce Council meeting on April 13 and 14 in Jackson; plans to attend the MACJC meeting in Jackson on April 27; and may possibly

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attend the inauguration of the new President at Mississippi Delta Community College on April 29.

Mr. Jimmy Murphy plans to attend the next EdNet meeting on May 17, 2004.

OTHER BUSINESS

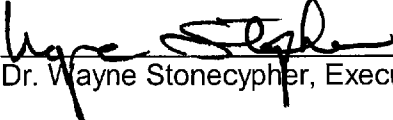
Mr. Walker reminded those present that he and Dr. Dorothy Nelson will not be able to attend the May 2004 meeting; therefore, the other members should notify the Board Office if they will be unable to attend as soon as possible, to assure a quorum.

Mr. Walker, on behalf of the Board, thanked Dr. Cole and his staff for the hospitality the college had shown by hosting the Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.


Mr. George Walker, Chairman


Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director